

April 30, 2021

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Dear Chairman Kubayanda,

2021 JUN -8 P 3:53  
I am writing to express my DEEP concern regarding the impact of moving bound printed matter parcels from the Market Dominant to the Competitive Product category. I know this will dramatically increase the rates for flyers and books that are mailed to schools.

I teach 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Crockett Elementary (San Angelo ISD) in Texas, and there is no doubt that the additional costs will ultimately be passed on to those purchasing books – students and their families. There are already too many barriers to reading for most families I work with. I depend on access to affordable books, which the bound printed matter rates provide, to help me close the gap for my lower-income students who normally could not afford higher-priced books.

Typically, more than 60% of my students come from families that don't have the means to create home libraries for their children. 13/18 of my students are labeled at-risk. We are also a Title 1 school. As a Scholastic Book Clubs partner, I am able to earn and use Bonus Points to build a classroom library of books for my students. I also use low-cost but high-quality books as rewards and gifts in my class for children who would otherwise never have a new book of their own. These books, both in the classroom and at home, continue to inspire a love of reading in my students, which has a positive impact on their success in all areas of life.

The pandemic has already had a tremendously negative consequence on my students' learning experience and literacy rates in the United States. I teach students in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade that range from a Pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> grade reading level. Being able to buy a variety of books for my classroom library is vital for their learning. The increase in mailing costs of educational materials will make access to children's literature even more difficult. I urge you to deny this transfer, or to exempt educational materials, so that I can continue to provide access to affordable, quality books for my students and families. The impact of this change for our school children would be TOO high of a cost to bear.

Sincerely,

Tara Moore  
Crockett Elementary

San Angelo ISD  
San Angelo, TX



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**Hon. Michael Kubayanda**  
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